(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether without compromising safety requirements, Director-General of Ordinance Services, purchased nine more bullet proof vehicles from same firm in February, 2007 at cost of Rs. 4.12 crore; and

(d) if so, the reasons for purchasing of defective vehicles mentioned above and what action taken against officers of DGOP involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) The Comptroller and Auditor General in Para 2.1 of their Report No. CA 4 of 2008 (Defence Services) have, *inter-alia,* noted that the vehicles procured in 2005 have the following problems:-

- Higher weight than what the engines were designed for, lowering the pulling power; affecting the ability to negotiate steep gradients prevalent in the terrain,
- Unsuitable for cross country movement due to low ground clearance,
- Problem in negotiating turns in mountainous terrain,
- Overheating of tyres, and
- Losing advantage of bullet proof glass since adjustment of rear view mirror can only be done by opening the doors.

(c) and (d) Based on reliable intelligence inputs received by Army, indicating high level of terrorist threat to senior Army Commanders, Bullet Proof Scorpio vehicles were identified by Army for use in such environment. Nine such vehicles were procured in February, 2007 from M/s Mahindra Defence System. These vehicles are different from those referred to in parts (a) and (b) above. A few minor defects reported earlier in these nine vehicles have been rectified by the Original Equipment Manufacturer and no further defects have been reported. The vehicles are being used extensively by senior Commanders.

AK-100 rifles

498. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government have taken a final decision to manufacture AK-100 series rifles with the help of Russia;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that AK rifles are more than 50 years old so made by Russia;

(c) whether the terms and conditions in this regard are on the pattern of the supply of Naval ships and sub-marines by Russia; and

(d) the reasons for not producing such rifles on the full technology of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) There are no plans to manufacture AK-100 guns with the help of Russia.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Indian Navy does not envisage further procurement of AK-100 guns and hence there are no plans of manufacture of these guns with transfer of technology.

Review of maritime surveillance capability of Indian Navy

499. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has reviewed the maritime surveillance capability of Indian Navy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken to strengthen the same;

(c) whether Navy is facing shortage of short range as well as long range maritime surveillance aircraft; and

(d) the quantum of funds allocated to Navy to strengthen maritime surveillance?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Government constantly review the security environment and accordingly decide to induct appropriate equipment including short, medium and long range maritime reconnaissance aircraft for the Navy for adequate defence preparedness. Reconnaissance aircraft are required for maritime surveillance. The shortfall in maritime surveillance is being met by induction of new reconnaissance aircraft in the short range, medium range and long range category in the Eleventh and the Twelfth Plan. Divulging further details will not be in the national interest.

Residential units on land occupied by Indian Navy at Debolim, Goa

500. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are residents quarters built in the land occupied by Indian Navy at Dabolim, Goa;

(b) if so, the number of units built;

(c) whether any residential units are under constructions;

(d) the number of units occupied by families of personnel working for Indian Navy at Dabolim;

(e) the number of units occupied or proposed to be occupied by families of personnel not working for Indian Navy in Dabolim; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (f) Yes, Sir. 245 Married accommodation flats have been built by the Indian Navy in the land occupied at Dabolim, Goa. No other residential unit is under construction.

All these units are occupied by Defence Personnel (Junior Sailors) posted to units under Goa Naval Area.

Manufacture of T-90 tanks

501. SHRI AMAR SINGH:
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state: